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(54) Title: **NOVEL METHOD OF DIAGNOSING AND TREATING GLIOMAS**

**(57) Abstract**

The present invention relates generally to the fields of cell physiology, neurology and neuro-oncology. More specifically, the present invention relates to a novel method of diagnosing and treating gliomas and meningiomas. The present invention describes the expression of a chloride conductance with unique properties that selectively characterizes tumor-derived cells of glial origin. In the present invention, whole-cell patch-clamp techniques were used to characterize the biophysical and pharmacological properties of chloride channels in primary cultures and acutely isolated cells from biopsies of human astrocytomas and established cell lines.

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